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NPIC/TSG-027-70

14 JUL 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Photographic Interpretation Center

SUBJECT : Proposed Contract with [] for an Optical
Testing Study at a Cost of [] from FY-71
Miscellaneous Services Funds

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1. This memorandum is a request for approval to commit Object Class 25 (Miscellaneous Services) funds for contractual Test and Evaluation Support. The specific request is stated in Paragraph 7.

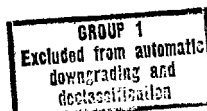
2. A large part of the equipment under development by the Research and Engineering Division of NPIC is completely or partially optical in nature. It is the function of Test and Evaluation Branch/Engineering Support Division/TSG to determine the acceptability and performance of this equipment. A study of the testing methods currently in use throughout industry for optical equipment has not been conducted because it would involve manpower far in excess of that available within TEB/ESD. Consequently, uncertainty exists that present in-house tests are the best possible for evaluating the equipment under test.

3. In order to partially close this gap in test and evaluation expertise and to better prepare for testing equipment which is currently under development, a contract is proposed to survey those tests of direct viewing optical equipment (i.e., microstereoscopes) in use by manufacturers of such equipment and by other testing facilities. A subsequent contract will be proposed to study T&E methods applicable to instruments which yield a real image (e.g., rear projection viewers).

4. The tests found by the survey are to be rated for their adequacy for the NPIC T&E function. The recommended best method for testing a given parameter will be fully documented by the contractor as procedures for use by NPIC test engineers. This effort comprises Phase I. After this phase of the contract is reviewed, direction will be given to the contractor to devise tests for those parameters not adequately covered by tests currently in use. The documentation for these tests, and those which have been judged appropriate from the industry survey, will be bound into a handbook which can be revised as new knowledge becomes available. This will complete Phase II of the contract.

5. In our search for a logical contractor for this project, three criteria were used. First, the contractor should not be a manufacturer of equipment. This will eliminate any bias toward his own techniques

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and equipment in his documentation. Second, the contractor should be oriented toward test and evaluation of equipment. Third, clearances as required for the work should already be assigned to the contractor to alleviate delay in starting the work. [] was selected as sole source on this contract on the basis that this company meets all of the above requirements. They do not manufacture equipment. They are a test & evaluation company. Having done work on contract for NPIC in the past, they possess clearances to begin our work immediately. Their proposal to our development objectives was reasonably priced, complete and responsive. A completion time of five months and a total cost of [] for Phase I is estimated. Phase II will take an additional two months and []

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6. The Project Officer for the Optical Testing Study will be [] of the Test & Evaluation Branch, Engineering Support Division, Technical Services Group, [] A sterility code of [] with a contract classification and Agency association of CONFIDENTIAL are recommended. Work and reports classifications of UNCLASSIFIED are also recommended.

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7. It is requested that approval be granted to negotiate with [] for a contract to conduct the Optical Testing Study for a period of performance of seven months at a cost not to exceed [] chargeable to Fan Account Number []

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Chief, Technical Services Group
NPIC

Attachments:

1. Form 2420
2. Optical Testing Proposal 6930-14

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Approved: []

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL
Director

National Photographic Interpretation Center

16 JUL 1970

Date

Distribution:

- Original - NPIC/TSG/SC&PS (after approval)
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